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ABSTRACT

A chimeric fibroblast growth factor protein and recombinant nucleic acid molecule encoding the same are disclosed. The chimeric fibroblast growth factor protein is characterized by: fibroblast growth factor biological activity in the absence of heparan sulfate and, entry into a living cell in the absence of a receptor that binds to FGF. Also disclosed are a method of making the chimeric fibroblast growth factor protein and methods of using the chimeric fibroblast growth factor protein to promote fibroblast growth factor activity in a cell and to enhance a biological process associated with fibroblast growth factor activity.